

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1. (currently amended) An antitheft device for use in portable electronic equipment comprising a microprocessor and a communication module for connection to an external communication network, said microprocessor including data a telephone number indicative of ~~[[a]]~~ the location of said electronic equipment, an output to provide said data telephone number to said communication module and a comparator to compare a response from said communication module to a predetermined response and thereby determine whether said equipment is in a desired location~~[[.]]~~; wherein said predetermined response is a busy signal from the external communication network.
2. (cancel) ~~An antitheft device according to claim 1 wherein said data is a telephone number of a location and said predetermined response is a busy signal from an external communication network.~~
3. (previously presented) An antitheft device according to claim 1 wherein upon receipt of a response other than said predetermined response said microprocessor utilizes additional data with said external communication network to indicate a theft of said equipment.
4. (currently amended) ~~An antitheft device according to claim 3 wherein said data is a telephone number of a location, said predetermined response is a busy signal from an external communication network, and said additional data is a telephone number of a security authority.~~
5. (currently amended) An antitheft device for use in portable electronic equipment comprising a microprocessor and a communication module for connection to an external communication network, said microprocessor including data indicative of the location of said electronic equipment, an output to provide said data to said communication module and a comparator to compare a response from said communication module to a predetermined response and thereby determine whether said equipment is in a desired location; said antitheft device ~~An antitheft device according to claim 1~~ further comprising user-accessible software allowing said data indicative of the location of said electronic equipment to be modified by a

privileged user.

6. (currently amended) A method of detecting the theft of portable electronic equipment using an antitheft device, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) providing data indicative of a desired location of said electronic equipment to an external communication network;

(b) comparing a response from said external communication network to a predetermined response; ~~[[and]]~~

(c) acknowledging the removal of said electronic equipment from said desired location if said response from the external communication network differs from said predetermined response~~[[.]]; and~~

(d) sending additional data to said external communication network indicating the theft of said electronic equipment if said response from said external communication network differs from said predetermined response;
wherein said additional data also includes data for determining the present location of said electronic equipment.

7. ~~(cancel) The method of claim 6 further comprising the step of sending additional data to said external communication network indicating the theft of said electronic equipment if said response from said external communication network differs from said predetermined response.~~

8. ~~(cancel) The method of claim 7 wherein said additional data also includes data for determining the present location of said electronic equipment.~~

9. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 6, 7, or 8 further comprising the step of~~
A method of detecting the theft of portable electronic equipment using an antitheft device, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) providing data indicative of a desired location of said electronic equipment to an external communication network;

(b) comparing a response from said external communication network to a predetermined response;

(c) acknowledging the removal of said electronic equipment from said desired location if said response from the external communication network differs from said predetermined

response; and

(d) modifying the desired location of said electronic equipment whenever prompted by a privileged user.

10. (currently amended) The method of claim 6 wherein steps (a) to ~~(c)~~ (d) are repeated on a periodic basis.